



*News From*

# JACK DOYLE

## MONROE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

**For Immediate Release**

Thursday, November 9, 2000

### **DOYLE ADDS 20<sup>th</sup> PARK TO PARK SYSTEM**

Monroe County Executive Jack Doyle today announced the proposed acquisition of Devil's Cove in Irondequoit Bay to make the 20<sup>th</sup> park in the Monroe County Park System and saving one of the county's most environmentally sensitive areas from ever being commercially or residentially developed. The name of the new park will be "Devil's Cove Park."

"The land will be used for the most passive recreation you could possibly have for a park, and the most spectacular and tranquil place for anyone to commune with nature," said Doyle. "When you visit this new park, you will be amazed that such a treasure is only minutes away from the City of Rochester."

Devil's Cove is a cove of woodlands and wetlands on the eastside of Irondequoit Bay. The park will provide open space, hiking and nature trails, and improved fishing access for residents. Ownership of the land will preserve valuable habitat for rare plant and bird species, and decrease erosion of the bay's steep and sandy embankments.

The land, encompassing 10.4 acres, will be purchased using \$75,000 from the county's capital program, pending Legislature approval this December. In addition, the county will consider purchasing other properties in the area, at fair market value, as they become available.

"It is our intention to limit the development of this land to low intensity recreational uses such as trails and fishing," said Doyle. "I can't think of a better gift to the taxpayers of Monroe County than this breathtaking habitat and it is equally a present to the birds, fish, plants, trees and animals that can now enjoy this part of Devil's Cove Park as home forever."

Devil's Cove is one of only five bay complexes among the 150 miles of Lake Ontario's southern shoreline. Irondequoit Bay, including the cove, is a Significant Coastal Fish and Wildlife Habitat Area. The New York Natural Heritage Program has identified seven endangered plants, two rare or potentially threatened communities, two nesting birds, an oak opening and one insect on the bay.

**-more-**

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Before the first white contact in 1610, the Seneca Indians favored Irondequoit Bay and the upland areas for its fishing, hunting and campgrounds. Through the years, the bay has been the site of many historical events including the location of both French and English trading posts at various times.

According to The Nature Conservancy, Irondequoit Bay and all lands within one-mile of the Lake Ontario shoreline serve as an important migratory corridor for birds. Bald eagles, osprey and the northern harrier are among a remarkable variety of bird species that either make their home on the bay or visit it occasionally.

Since Doyle took office in 1995, the county has acquired the following approximately 180 acres of land and added it to the parks system:

- 909 Empire Boulevard added to Ellison Park (36 Acres)
- 1135 Empire Boulevard added to Ellison Park (12 Acres)
- 433 & 445 Rich's Dugway added to Ellison Park (.5 Acres)
- 4272 Clover Street added to Mendon Ponds Park (11 Acres)
- 271 Mendon Center Road added to Ellison Park (6.5 Acres)
- Six miscellaneous lots added to Genesee Valley Park (1 Acres)
- 731 King's Highway added to Durand-Eastman Park (13 Acres)
- 4145 Union Street (Streeter's Inn) added to Black Creek Park (.7 Acres)
- 980 Glen Edythe Drive to create Devil's Cove Park (10.4 Acres)
- Harris Seed(Manitou Road) parcel added to Greece Canal Park (90 +/- Acres)

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*For further information, call:  
Communications & Special Events at 428-2380  
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